

gas-fitters and the Sheffield Gas Company seem to be still in the midst of their old misunderstanding.—Various designs appropriate to the manufactures of the district have been prepared at the Nottingham School of Design for the International Exhibition.—The interior of the chancel of Ashbourn Church will, after Easter, says the *Derby Mercury*, undergo repairs and alterations, to render it in ecclesiastical harmony with the fabric.

—Considerable improvements are being made in the Manchester and Salford public parks. Amongst others, the health of the people has been considered in the drainage of Peel's park with tiles. A terrace and bridge has been added to Phillip's park.—

It is proposed to erect a new church and schools in the district of Strangeways, Cheetwood, &c., Manchester.—“There were a large number of competitors for the 50*l.* premium for the best plan of a covered market-house,” at Stockport, says the *Manchester Courier*; “but the manorial toll committee had reduced the number to 15. Those plans, with their elaborated sections, have for some time been exhibited upon the walls of the committee-room at the Court-house, for public inspection. The estimates range from 800*l.* to 3,000*l.* The architects have not been confined to the site of the old post-office, or the ground upon which the Stockport bank stands; but have extended their scheme by taking into their plan the whole of the back side of Bridge-street Brow; and some very eligible designs have been drawn for the Castle-yard plot, which, we learn, have met with much encouragement. The competitors come from all parts of the kingdom.”—A sum of 1,100*l.* has now been subscribed towards the erection of baths at Oldham. Efforts are being made to increase the amount, but there does not appear to be at present much prospect of the 12,000*l.* resolved on being realized. The identification of the baths with a Peel testimonial is said to have prevented the obtaining of some subscriptions.—The erection of a monument to the late Mr. Edward Baines is engaging some attention at Leeds. The subscribers are looking for a site.—The new Congregational Chapel, Sunderland, the foundation stone of which was lately laid, is to be of stone, and to have a pediment in the principal front, the tympanum of which is broken by a large semi-circular arch and window. In the inside the cast-iron columns are carried up to the roof and the ceiling is coped in the centre to correspond with the arch and window. Accommodation is provided for upwards of 1,000 persons.—

The contract for the formation of the additional reservoir at Whittle Dean (near Newcastle) has been taken by Mr. Richard Cail, who is to complete it during summer. The reservoir is to cover forty acres of land, and contain 120 millions of gallons of water. The present reservoirs hold about 220 millions of gallons.—At a recent meeting at Newcastle to consider the project of corporation gas works it was stated that the price of gas in Newcastle and Gateshead would shortly be further reduced.—An attempt made at Longton to originate a Branch School of Design in connection with the Longton Athenæum has proved so far successful that a grant of valuable books and examples for drawing has been made from Somerset-house, and drawing classes have been commenced under direction of a teacher qualified by study at the Stoke School of Design. An annual subscription, amounting to about 30*l.*, has been raised for expenses, besides donations towards the cost of fitting up the rooms.—In the Edinburgh council a report was lately read from the Lord Provost's Committee regarding the contracts for the erection of the slaughter-houses. The contracts accepted were as follows:—Mason work (Mr. James Gowans), 8,499*l.* 10*s.*; wright work (Mr. John Shennan), 2,699*l.* 15*s.*; slater work (Mr. John Young), 675*l.* 12*s.*; plumber work (Messrs. Hume and Melville), 790*l.*; smith and tin work (Mr. George Knight), 393*l.* 10*s.* 10*d.*; total, 12,974*l.* 8*s.* 10*d.*—Mr. Kirkland, of Glasgow, architect, has designed an Ionic arch to replace the towers of the original plan of the

Portland-street suspension bridge there. The arch is surmounted by a cornice supported by two fluted columns and two plain pilasters. The elevation of the erection will be 42 feet altogether. The sides are ornamented with niches. The chains will clear the main cornice.

—On Tuesday, the 18th of March last, the foundation-stone of the parish church at Virginstow, in the county of Devon, was laid by the Rev. Ponsford Cann, rector. The building is to be Early English in style, and consist of south porch, nave, and chancel, and a bell gable on the west end. The walls are to be built of native stone, with wrought quoins from Halwill, window jambs and arches of Polifant stone, open timber roof, covered with Delaholm slate. The interior fitted with open sittings, stained and varnished. Estimated cost, 510*l.*, to be carried out under the superintendence of Mr. William Randle, architect, by Messrs. Lose and Squires, contractors.

ENGINEERING AND ARCHITECTURE IN IRELAND.

Her Majesty's Board of Ordnance have issued orders for the construction of chapel schools at Portobello-barracks, Dublin, Mullingar, Templemore, Birr, Fermoy, Buttevant, and Belfast.

A Scotch church is to be erected at Queens-town, Cork, and advertisements have been issued for tenders to execute the works according to plans and specifications in possession of Mr. David Patterson, Queenstown.

The board of guardians of the South Dublin Union have determined upon remodelling and altering the present chapel of the workhouse according to plans prepared by the architect to the Poor Law Commissioners.

The unfinished works on the road leading from Ferns to Bagnalstown, are to be completed, and two bridges erected: the amount of work to be done is about 1,972 perches, and the probable cost will be 2,700*l.* Plans for the foregoing have been prepared by the county surveyor, and the grand jury are receiving tenders for their execution.

The large bridge over Lough Athalia, on the Midland Great Western Railway, is progressing: it consists of two abutments and three piers, the centre pier being considerably larger than the other two. There are five bays, two of 60 and three of 40 feet span. One of the three 40-foot spans is crossed by a number of cast-iron girders, made by Mr. Stephens, of Galway. The section of the girders is that of two boxes placed one on top of the other: these boxes are composed of plates of cast-iron, firmly rivetted together with iron bolts. The patentees are Messrs. Fairbairn, of Manchester. The stonework was wrought and quarried at Merlin Park.

The board of guardians of Cebridge Union intend erecting a fever hospital at the workhouse, and are prepared to receive tenders for the execution of the works according to the plans prepared by the Poor Law Commissioners' architect.

A new Sessions-house and Bridewell are to be erected at Coleraine.

Local agricultural schools are to be erected at Kilkenny, according to plans prepared by the architect to the Commissioners of National Education, Mr. Darley.

The Commissioners of National Education also have determined upon erecting model agricultural buildings in the county of Leitrim, and also to make alterations to the Leitrim National School-house, according to the drawings of their architect.

The Great Southern and Western Railway Company have obtained permission from the Lords of the Admiralty to construct a dock at their terminus, Cork. The area of the proposed dock will be five acres, exclusive of an entrance dock. The extent of wharfage will be 1,400 feet. The cost of construction is estimated at 45,000*l.* We believe Mr. Sancton Wood is the architect.

The Board of Public Works intend erecting a new lunatic asylum at Grange Gorman, Dublin, in connection with the present one, and will receive proposals for its erection ac-

cording to the drawings of their architect, Mr. Owen.

A new school-house is to be erected in the parish of Doon, according to drawings by Mr. James Pains, architect. Tenders are invited for the execution of the works.

The board of guardians of Abbeylara Union have advertised for proposals to raise the ideo wards of the workhouse and execute sundry works, according to the drawings by Mr. Wilkinson.

The board of superintendence of county Leitrim gaol intend erecting a drying-room in the female prison, and have invited tenders for the execution of the works.

On Monday, the 24th March, the first stone of a new workhouse at Glyn, county Limerick, was laid by the Knight of Glyn. Mr. George Paterson, the contractor, presented the knight with a beautifully chased silver trowel. The building is to be erected from the drawings of the architect to the Poor-Law Commissioners.

The Drainage Commissioners applied for a large presentment at the Clonmel assizes for bridges to be erected in the South Riding.

ENGINE CHIMNEYS.

1. WHATEVER be the form of the exterior, the flue should not be smaller at top than at bottom. *Ceteris paribus*, a flue 24 inches in diameter at top and bottom will draw better than one 36 inches in diameter at bottom, and 24 inches at top. The opening at the summit is the gauge, and should always be made a matter of calculation. If any difference be made between the top and bottom diameters, the flue may generally, with advantage, be contracted at the throat.

2. The internal flue should never in any case form part of the solid fabric, but be built entirely independent. S. E. R.

ARCHITECTURAL ASSOCIATION.

At the ordinary meeting held on March 14th, a paper was read by Mr. J. K. Colling, upon “The Principles of the Coloured Decorations of Mediæval Architecture,” in which he remarked upon the increasing interest taken in the subject at present, and the advance made beyond the safe but effectual style of a few years since: he considered that in the painting of the Exhibition building a return had been made to the principles which guided the decoration of the buildings of the mediæval ages, and reviewed the various proposals made by different parties in *THE BUILDER*, and other papers: he then proceeded, by reference to a numerous collection of drawings and lithographs, to explain the principles of the Gothic colouring, pointing out their almost invariable adherence to the rules of heraldry: that colour should not be used upon or next to colour, but separated by black, white, or gold, which simple rule, almost always disregarded in modern practice, will be found to hold in nature, and is therefore a principle of good colouring; that their arrangement is simple and the colours few even in the richest designs; that the primitive colours are broken up into small spaces, and that alternations of two colours, as red and green, are frequent. He further described the several methods of Gothic colouring in their chronological order, and derived the first patterns from the marking out the joints of the stonework in colour, and perhaps painting a rosette in the centre of each stone; the progress to flowing patterns is simple subdued colours, to, finally, the introduction of gorgeous and varied colouring, which, however, he considered was generally confined to a portion only of a building, as screens, tombs, &c., the larger spaces being more subdued.

In the discussion which followed, it was stated that chasing yellow with metals instead of colours in heraldry, was not wholly conventional, the same arrangement being found in nature, as in the white and yellow flowers spangling the green fields of spring, as noticed by Mr. French; and it was said that in the rainbow it is found a component of each secondary which divides the primaries: its superior brilliancy causes it perhaps, as the